

## **STRATEGIES FOR SILENT READING OF CONTENT**

Before asking children to read, **set a purpose** and reduce confusion by using one of the following treatments (that works best for the selection, of course):

1. Tell the class that they are going to **find something out**. Give a hint to whet their appetite. "See if you can find out what awful problems the pioneers faced on their travels west." "Find out how your days would be spent if you were born in pioneer times instead of today."
2. Ask them to decide what they think is the **most important statement** on each page, telling them they'll compare later to see how many kids agreed on the same ones.

3. Have them put a set of **events in sequence**. Later, discuss any disagreements.

4. Have them put a set of people, events, etc. in **rank order of importance**.
5. Ask them to create an appropriate **newspaper headline** to go with the reading selection.

6. Present an idea, conclusion or outcome appropriate to the reading and have them **verify or dispute the truth** of your statement by finding the correct information in the text.

7. Provide **multiple-level questions**, starting with factual, expending to critical thinking. Ex. After a reading a selection about Anchorage and Fairbanks, Alaska as centers of trade and transportation, ask a) What 2 cities are connected by the Alaska Railway?, b) Why are Anchorage and Fairbanks considered important cities? and c) Why do you think Anchorage and Fairbanks are important stopping places for air flights from the mainland United States to Japan?

8. Pose a **question that goes beyond the text**, such as "What do you think it would be like today if \*\*\*\* had never happened?" or "Can you think of a way \*\*\*\* could have been prevented? ....done better?"